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Senate

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, King of kings and Lord of lords, we thank You today for the gift of exemplary living, particularly as we remember our Supreme Court's 16th Chief Justice, William Rehnquist. We received inspiration from his commitment to public service and from his desire to invest his life in things that flourish beyond his lifetime. We were challenged by his willingness to choose duty over personal comfort.

As many mourn his death, remind us that one day we must all stand before Your judgment seat, for You are the Chief Judge of the universe. May the reality of our accountability to You prompt us to live our lives for Your glory.

Empower each Senator to listen to the whisper of conscience as he or she labors for liberty. May his or her first priority be to live for Your honor. Give all of us the power to rule our spirits so that we may fulfill Your purpose for our lives.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business until 12 noon with the time equally divided and Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, just a short while ago, the Senate proceeded as a body to the U.S. Supreme Court to pay final respect to the late Chief Justice William Rehnquist. We continue this morning with tributes to the Chief Justice. Senators will be able to come to the Senate floor until 12 noon to make those statements.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that at 12 noon today, the Senate proceed to a vote on the adoption of a resolution honoring the life of Chief Justice Rehnquist.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, Senators should be aware that the next vote will occur at noon today. The Senate will also recess early this afternoon during the funeral for Chief Justice Rehnquist as a further mark of respect. If necessary, we will return to session later today to consider any additional Katrina-related legislation or tributes.

This week, we also anticipate a further supplemental appropriations bill relative to the efforts in our Gulf States. We will consider that bill as expeditiously as possible to continue the recovery and rescue efforts.

Finally, I remind my colleagues that tomorrow we will begin consideration

of the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill. The measure has important hurricane-related issues, including small business disaster loans and Justice Department law enforcement assistance grants. Votes will occur during the remainder of the week as we consider these matters.

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, last Saturday, in the wake of one terrible loss, our Nation suffered another loss, a quiet loss but one that was also deeply felt across the land. We learned that William H. Rehnquist, the 16th Chief Justice of the United States, had passed away. Karen and I and the entire Senate family extend our deepest sympathies to his family and to his friends. Our Nation mourns the loss of a great leader.

William Rehnquist was an American hero—a World War II veteran, a lifelong public servant, a brilliant legal mind, and a jurist of historic consequence. He was an inspiration to all who knew him. This was especially true in his final months as he stoically fought the cancer that would eventually claim his life.

Since October 2004, when the Chief Justice announced he had thyroid cancer, his chin remained up and his mind focused and devoted. Today, that optimism, that determination, that strength of spirit in purpose remain an encouragement to us all.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to get to know William Rehnquist during my tenure in the Senate. I am honored to call him a friend. But even more, perhaps the most one can say of any leader, I simply feel blessed to have lived in his time and in the country that so benefited from his wisdom.

William Rehnquist was born on October 1, 1924, in Milwaukee, WI. The son of William Benjamin Rehnquist, a

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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